

**VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
MINUTES
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Monday, February 22, 2010 at 6:30 PM
MEMORIAL HALL OLD BOARD ROOM**

Chairman Curran called the meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission to Order at 6:38 p.m. at the Memorial Hall.

Members Present: Chairman Curran, Commissioners Banke, Griffin, Dougherty, McCarthy, and Mulligan

Members Absent: Commissioners Ed Opler & Bill Otto

Also Present: Rich Simon, Hinsdale Little League

Staff Present: Gina Hassett, Director of Parks and Recreation
Kurt Lindemann, Recreation Supervisor
Linda Copp, Secretary

Commissioner Banke clarified about his reference in the Minutes that stated revenue amount of \$60,000 for Hinsdale Little League was a point of reference and not a fact. Commissioner Mulligan clarified the Red Dogs distinction that the members must be part of Hinsdale Little League.

Commissioner Dougherty moved approval of the November 9, 2009 Park and Recreation Commission meeting minutes with corrections. Commissioner Banke seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Monthly Reports

Ms. Hassett explained that some expenses have been coded to different accounts and that each line item has been looked at to be sure it is coded correctly. Ms. Hassett explained that costs have been very reserved even though revenue is down. Commissioner Mulligan asked why revenue was down. Ms. Hassett stated she thinks it is both economy and program related. There are a lot of choices and residents can choose private companies instead of general recreation programs. Chairman Curran asked for Ms. Hassett to reach out to School District 181 for projections of enrollments for next six years. Chairman Curran stated that he believes that growth is flat for the middle school age.

Commissioner Mulligan asked if the figures included special events. Chairman Curran asked if there is any significant special event revenue yet to come. Ms. Hassett stated that only the egg hunt is left for this fiscal year and that will only be about \$1500. Chairman Curran asked for feedback for next years Polar Express. Ms. Hassett will try for additional trips next year.

Recreation program update

Ms. Hassett explained that the EPA realized that we have a permit for discharging water at the pool but have not filed the required monthly reports. We have a permit but the monthly reports have not been done since 2004. The Village may have to pay a fine and will be issued a letter of non-compliance. There is a monthly report that is required about water discharge and the

chemical makeup of what is discharged into Flagg Creek. The drawings are not accurate as to where the discharge is going.

The 2010/11 budget has allocated approximately \$150,000 for the pool, so the hours have to be reduced to stay in budget. Saturday and Sunday hours will be noon to 6 pm. The biggest change will be on the weekends and the back to school hours will not be available during the week. Ms. Hassett stated that some Village Trustees discussed not opening the pool at all. It costs about \$140 per hour to be open. If the pool exceeds revenue, Ms. Hassett may ask the Board for additional hours. Ms. Hassett commented that Westmont Swim Club does want to use the pool again this year. She explained that no more part time staff wages will be allowed, so the pool has to operate with the number of lifeguards hired. Chairman Curran asked if the Trustees looked at last year's figures to see that the expenses were less than revenue. Ms. Hassett stated that the revenue from last year did not meet the target amount.

Ms. Hassett stated that Village Manager Cook pointed out that the pool should be self sustaining including capital expenditures. Ms. Hassett stated that the fees would have to be raised 43% in order to cover an annual capital budget. Chairman Curran suggested that someone from Parks and Recreation be at the next task force meeting. Commissioner Deppe asked if there were other items that were under attack from the board. Ms. Hassett stated that one item is that the downtown landscaping will be done by staff. The senior taxi program will be eliminated and the water rates are increasing. Ms. Hassett stated that one Trustee suggested closing KLM Lodge.

Commissioner Deppe questioned if the Trustees are aware of the land that is sitting empty on 55th and County Line Road that could be generating revenue.

Ms. Hassett stated that many of the Trustees do value the pool and Lodge, but they are looking at all aspects. Commissioner Mulligan asked if there is anything that the Parks and Recreation Commission can do. Ms. Hassett stated that she was asked by Village Manager Dave Cook and the Trustees about other pool options like using other communities. Ms. Hassett stated that Clarendon Hills can't absorb all of the kids in swim lessons. The Board did listen to staff and stated that the pool would need to operate within the budget.

Chairman Curran suggested figuring out what the minimum amount would be to have a private pool party from 6 – 8 pm on Saturday or Sunday when the pool is going to be closed. He suggested that this could add revenue and give the public a chance to use the pool. Ms. Hassett will talk to Village Manager Dave Cook about this issue.

Commissioner Deppe went on record to say that he doesn't favor the Trustees having meetings without having any kind of notice to the Commissioners because the Commission has to answer to the community. The Commission agreed. Commissioner Deppe made a motion that if the Trustees decide to have a taskforce or committee of any kind regarding Parks and Recreation items, that the Parks and Recreation Commission be given notice and are able to have at least one Commissioner represented. Commissioner Dougherty will draft a memo to the President and Board of Trustees stating the Commissioners concerns. The Commission requests that going forward they be involved in that type of discussion. Commissioner McCarthy seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The Commission wants at least one representative from the Parks and Recreation Commission to be contacted so someone can attend. Chairman Curran stated that this is lack of communication and wants good communication with the Board. Commissioner Deppe stated that he finds it incredible that the Trustees would throw this out without any contact with the Commissioners.

Commissioner Dougherty read the memo that will be sent to the Village President and Board of Trustees. Commissioner Deppe moved approval of the memo and Commissioner Banke seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Hassett will send the memo to the Chairman Curran for approval and then present it to the Board.

Ms. Hassett stated that the ice rink is done for the season and Kurt Lindemann will prepare a report. The residents were pleased. A liner will have to be purchased next year for approximately \$7500. The cost of the Melin Park was \$1500 and ACA declined reimbursement. The group will use the cost as a charitable donation. Commissioner Mulligan stated that 20 – 30 kids use it every night. Commissioner Mulligan stated that there is maintenance involved at the Melin rink and the neighbors take care of that. Chairman Curran suggested that the Brook Park donation could be used for an ice rink at Brook Park. Ms. Hassett stated that the Brook family does not want a one year project. Ms. Hassett will be having discussion with the Brook family about use of the donation.

Commissioner Banke asked if there are concessions at the Burns Field warming hut. Ms. Hassett stated that there have not been concessions there for at least two years. Commissioner Banke stated that there could be boy scouts or other groups that would want to sell hot chocolate and wanted to know if staff is opposed to it. Ms. Hassett stated that the organization would need to have a food license or give the items away rather than sell it. Ms. Hassett stated that the village doesn't have staff to do that so if someone is interested, they should contact her.

Park & Recreation Commission Follow Up Items

Duncan Field Update

Ms. Hassett stated that she is working on the cost assessment for the improvements. It will cost approximately \$900,000 to have two soccer fields and a major overhaul of the baseball fields. Ms. Hassett will set up a meeting with the Forest Preserve Commissioners. The tree study will be submitted to the County. Steve from Hitchcock will set up a phone call with the regional office, but doesn't feel it is a strong submission for the OSLAD grant. The Village does need \$500,000 to match the funds. The application deadline is July 2010, but funds would not be needed for two years.

Commissioner Banke asked if the County Commissioners were re-elected. Ms. Hassett stated that we still have the Commissioners votes that we need. The County does not want anymore storm water on the property. Ms. Hassett stated that there is a lot of clearing that would need to be done. Chairman Curran asked if we would be allowed to spray for mosquitoes. Ms. Hassett wasn't sure if we could spray. Commissioner Dougherty suggested hanging bat houses for the bugs. Forest preserve approval is necessary before OSLAD funding could be considered.

Commissioner McCarthy asked about the plan being voted down. Ms. Hassett stated that the first plan was voted down and the County said to come back with just what is wanted there. The Forest Preserve also does not want a 40 year lease, but it will be annually just as it is now. Chairman Curran stated that their constituents want other items as well such as a bike path, walking paths and there could be other add-ons so it could jointly go to OSLAD.

Rich Simon from Hinsdale Little League asked about the timeline. Ms. Hassett will call to find out if there is one. Chairman Curran wanted to know if the tree study was done. The tree study cost is approximately \$750 and the drawings were approximately \$1500 totaling about \$3000.

Commissioner Banke wanted to know if we had a lease for the coming year. Ms. Hassett is still waiting for the application due date and it is not a quick process.

Lyons Township Update

Chairman Curran stated that 50% of funds were allotted from Lyons Township and the Village will get \$150,000 earmarked for a picnic shelter at KLM. He was not sure if it has to be put at KLM. There were 7 communities that didn't receive anything. Final awards will be by mid-April. Chairman Curran stated that the picnic shelter will go towards revenue generation. Commissioner Deppe thanked Ms. Hassett for working on this issue.

Recreation Agreement with Hinsdale Little League for Pitchen Kitchen

The agreement with the Pitchen Kitchen was presented and it is basically the same as the one with Hinsdale Platform Tennis. Language was questioned for charging for major repairs. We don't have an agreement with Falcon Football for Brook concession stand and Ms. Hassett will look into drafting an agreement with them as well.

Rich Simon asked about the language for maintenance. It will be a discussion item and neither party is totally responsible for maintenance. Chairman Curran stated that when major repairs are needed, there will be discussion with Little League. Commissioner Banke asked about the duration of the lease. He suggested that each year the responsibility needs to be looked at and there needs to be discussion about any maintenance issues. Commissioner Banke suggested that the lease be modified to be for one year. Chairman Curran asked how Ms. Hassett arrived at 5 years. She stated that Village manager, Dave Cook suggested that five is the max and it can be changed. The Village can terminate the agreement with 14 days notice. Commissioner Dougherty stated that the time frame should be shortened because we know that the roof will need to be replaced within five years and it is not designated in the Agreement who will pay for that repair.

Commissioner Dougherty stated that the Pitchin Kitchen was renovated about 12 years ago and the roof would probably have been changed then. Ms. Hassett will change the agreement to one year and the Agreement will go to ACA for approval. She will also draft an agreement with Falcon Football. Commissioner Banke made a motion to amend the contract to a term of one year and be revisited each year specifically for maintenance issues. Commissioner Dougherty seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Simon asked about the status of Veeck Park. Ms. Hassett stated the field repairs should be made once the weather breaks. There will be no baseball until the end of May. Ms. Hassett stated that most of the dirt is gone but the burms have made the field too short. Ms. Hassett and Mr. Simon will come up with a punch list to see what still needs to be done. Commissioner Banke asked if staff could work with Little League to accommodate more age groups. This would involve having two mounds. Ms. Hassett says the construction company is not responsible for the infield and there is no dirt on the infield.

Commissioners thanked Rich Simon for coming.

Field Fees and Policy Discussion

Commissioner Otto was not present so this issue will be discussed again next month. Offside soccer wants to see this issue revisited for men's soccer. Any modification to the agreement would have to go to ACA. Commissioner Deppe wanted to know what kind of fee reduction they are requesting. They are asking for a 50% fee reduction. Commissioner Mulligan stated that it is not an organized play but pick up games and it is discouraging participants for the cost involved. Commissioner Dougherty asked about question 3 on the offside memo that related to the fields being torn up. Ms. Hassett stated that she could not say for a fact that they could do more damage. The issue will be revisited next month. Chairman Curran asked if other community's fees were in line with our new fees. Ms. Hassett stated that all the surrounding community fees are going up.

Commissioner Banke asked Ms. Hassett if she knew the cost to run the lights. Ms. Hassett does not know the cost. Ms. Hassett suggested paying \$50 per hour and \$25 for lights for Offside Soccer. Commissioner Mulligan stated that if the players are not residents, then the \$100 fee would apply. A decision for this item will be tabled until next month.

Capital Budget 2010-11

Ms. Hassett stated that some of the pool budget money can be done from this year's budget. The work would have to be done by May 1st. The two heater replacement can possibly be done this year. Ms. Hassett will continue discussion with Assistant Finance Director, Darrell Langlois.

New Business

July 4th parade theme and Grand Marshal

Chairman Curran asked for suggestions for the Grand Marshal. The route will start on Washington Street due to construction on Garfield. Commissioner Deppe asked if there was a way to use one of Alice Mansell's children in her memory. Ms. Hassett stated that all of her children live out of state. Ms. Hassett also stated that there is group of girls that could put something together on Alice's behalf. Commissioner Dougherty stated that Alice Mansell was instrumental in the garden walks and suggested that perhaps the theme could be something garden related. Commissioner Mulligan suggested something relating to what Ms. Mansell was doing and her legacy.

Commissioner Banke suggested Hinsdale tennis coach that just retired as the grand marshal if nothing works out for Alice Mansell. He also asked if the grand marshal can be in memory of someone. Ms. Hassett stated that there are etiquette rules for parades and she will check to see if there can be a Grand Marshall and have the parade in memory of someone. Ms. Hassett will go before ACA and ask if for this year the parade could be Alice Mansell Memorial Parade and the Hinsdale coach could be the Grand Marshal.

There will be further discussion on the parade at March's meeting.

Hinsdale Tennis Association Agreement Discussion

Ms. Hassett explained the agreement with HTA. They had been using our courts for no charge. The Village received 10% and Tom Lockhart takes the registrations. \$6200 was received last year. The agreement for this year will be \$7500 instead of a percentage. It is less than the 15% but it is a guaranteed amount. We include a one page ad in our brochure and Tom Lockhart takes all the registrations and submits all of his bank statements. Ms. Hassett recommended acceptance of the Agreement for this year and then revisit it for next year. Tom Lockhart uses

Burns courts from 8:30 am into the early evening. Chairman Curran asked for Ms. Hassett to check to see if Nazareth high school still uses Brook courts. She didn't think that would be a conflict with HTA.

Commissioner Dougherty stated that she didn't think that was enough money for the whole summer. Ms. Hassett stated that it would cost us a lot more if we had to run the program. Commissioner Banke suggested revisiting the agreement for next year. Commissioner Griffin stated that with AYSO a few did pay in cash and there would be no record of those registrations on a bank statement. Chairman Curran suggested having two payments, one at the beginning of season and one at the end of the season. Commissioner Deppe asked what the enrollment is for tennis classes. Ms. Hassett stated that we really don't know since we don't take the registrations but she believes there are several hundred. Commissioner McCarthy made a motion to have two payments, one due June 30 and one October 1. Commissioner Banke seconded and the motion passed unanimously

HCA request waiver of fees

Ms. Hassett explained the request. The Village used to give HCA \$60,000 each year but due to budget cuts, HCA no longer receives any money from the Village. They don't cover their costs in their registration fees so they have asked for the Village to help. Due to budget cuts, the Village is not able to help financially. The waiver of fees is for six two hour daytime rentals totaling \$1200. Commissioner McCarthy made motion to approve the waiver of fees. Commissioner Griffin seconded and the motion passed. Commissioners Dougherty and Curran had to recuse themselves because of HCA affiliation. The motion will now go to ACA for approval.

Correspondence

None

Adjournment

The next meeting will be March 22 at 6:30 pm. Since there was no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Deppe moved to adjourn. Commissioner Banke seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission meeting was declared adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Copp